had no sufficient backing. Will the Government come forward to give special and preferential treatment to the candidates from rural areas?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: Every district is given its quota on the basis of population. There is no distinction made between rural parts and urban parts. Most of the students are from rural areas and they come for study in colleges in urban areas.

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Do this Government, Sir, still adhere to the principle of communal representation in the matter of selection of candidates to the medical colleges?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: There is no communal representation, Sir. Reservation only is made for backward classes, scheduled classes and scheduled tribes.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY: Has the Hon. Minister received complaints from various quarters that pupils belonging to forward communities get their selection as backward community pupils by false representation, and that even among the backward community pupils, only a particular backward community has been preferred to all other communities?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: No such complaints have come to me in writing.

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN: Is it a fact, Sir, that some members of the committee awarded very liberal personality test marks to certain backward class candidates in order to favour them even though they did not have personality and is it also a fact that certain backward class students like Vanniyakula Kshatriya students, even though they had sufficient marks, did not get adequate number of marks in personality test and therefore they did not get the chance of being selected?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: I am sorry, Sir, the hon. Member thinks it fit to make such remarks against the members of the Selection Committee who are not here to defend themselves.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY: A remark about the working of the Selection Committee having been made, may I know whether the Hon. Minister would constitute a committee to go into the question whether the Selection Committee really selected persons fairly and squarely for medical colleges? 9-20 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: There is absolutely no reason for the constitution of any such committee, Sir.

Regulation of employment in minor ports

* 199 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any tripartite committee is proposed to be constituted to regulate employment in minor ports; and

(*b*) if so, the details of the proposal?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall take up the questions to be answered by the Hon. Finance Minister.

Transfer to Kerala of the golden sword of the Payassi Raja

* 180 Q.—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have removed to the Madras Museum this year the golden sword recovered from North Malabar and belonging to the family of Payassi Raja according to legend;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to return the sword to the Kerala State to be formed; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any proposal to return all important objects in the Madras Museum which have historical significance with reference to Malabar to the Kerala State to be formed under the reorganization scheme?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) & (*b*) The Member apparently refers to the three gold sword hilts which were found in Kavilumpara amsam in Kurumbranad taluk, Malabar district, and which were notified as treasure trove by the Collector of Malabar. The treasure trove has not been removed to the Government Museum, Madras. It is still in the district of Malabar.

(*c*) No, Sir. It is reported that the number of objects of historical interest from Malabar district in this Museum is very very small and negligible.

Representation for Non-Gazetted Officers in the Legislative Council

* 181 Q.—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation from the Madras State Non-Gazetted Officers' Association after their annual conference held at Madras in May 1956 requesting the Government to take necessary steps to give them representation in the Legislative Council and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : A resolution requesting representation for Non-Gazetted Officers in the State Legislature as well as in Lok Sabha was received by Government along with other resolutions passed at the 34th State Conference of the Non-Gazetted Officers' Association held at Madras in May 1956. After examining the request, the Association was informed that the Government considered it neither necessary nor desirable to give any representation to the Non-Gazetted Officers in the Legislature.